

**New Jersey State Board of Education
Minutes of the Meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Education
In the Conference Room on the First Floor
100 River View Executive Plaza
Trenton, NJ**

May 2, 2018

Presiding: Arcelio Aponte, President

Secretary: Lamont O. Repollet, Ed. D., Acting Commissioner

PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM

Dr. Ronald Butcher
Mrs. Mary Beth Berry
Mrs. Elaine Bobrove
Mr. Jack Fornaro
Dr. Ernest Lepore
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Gazi
Mrs. Kathy Goldenberg
Mrs. Sylvia Sylvia
Mrs. Fatimah Burnam-Watkins

ABSENT

Dr. Nedd J. Johnson
Mr. Andrew Mulvihill
Dr. Joseph L. Ricca

CONVENING

State Board of Education President Arcelio Aponte convened the public meeting at 9:00 a.m. with the reading of the statement pertaining to the public session of the State Board meeting as it complies with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

The Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the State Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Department of Education, Secretary of State's Office and notice also having been given to the State House Press Corps, the Governor's Office and the State Board agenda subscribers.

And seeing there was a quorum, the meeting of May 2, 2018 was called to order.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Aponte then read the resolution pertaining to the executive session of the State Board meeting as it complies with the Open Public Meetings Act.

WHEREAS, in order to protect the personal privacy and to avoid situations wherein the public interest might be disserved, the Open Public Meetings Act permits public bodies to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which certain matters are discussed, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that consistent with the provision of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12.b, the State Board Education will now adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel and legal issues. The State Board immediately adjourned to executive session on May 2, 2018.

RECONVENING

State Board President Arcelio Aponte reconvened the open meeting at 10:15 a.m. with the reading of the resolution pertaining to the resumption of the public session of the State Board meeting as it complies with the Open Public Meetings Act.

WHEREAS, consistent with the provision of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12.b, the State Board will now adjourn from executive session to resume the open session of this meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board members approved the minutes of the public meeting conducted on May 2, 2018. State Board members Ronald Butcher and Kathy Goldenberg abstained from voting on the minutes of the meeting on April 11, 2018.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Announcements

Committee Reports

Policy Committee—Mary Beth Gazi, chair of the Policy Committee stated that the committee had met with Department staff to receive an overview of the status of the readoption with amendment of chapter 8, Standards and Assessment which is slated for adoption at this meeting. She stated that the singular amendment within this readoption would change the elementary science assessment from grade four to grade five. She also stated that the few concerns raised and included in the comment and response form are in reference notification to school districts and logistics of test administration. She further stated that the Department is awaiting a response from the United States Department of Education to waive the reporting requirements, allowing New Jersey to administer the 2017-18 science assessment as a field test, which is an integral part of the implementation plan.

Special Education Committee—Mary Beth Berry; chair, stated that members of the Special Education committee will meet with Department staff on June 6, 2018. She also stated that committee members attended meetings of the Special Education Advisory Council in February, March and April. She further stated that the themes of the Advisory Council meetings included Person Centered Planning, Effective Special Education Advisory Parent Groups, and Preschool: Teaching Potential through Recommended Practices, respectively.

Ms. Berry stated that Special Education Week will be celebrated May 13-19, 2018 in NJ. She also stated that ASAH and NJSBA will jointly be hosting a conference in recognition of Special Education Week and that board members are invited to attend sessions on Innovations in Special Education.

Career and Technical Education Committee—Kathy Goldenberg; chair, stated that she and various members of the committee had visited the following vocational programs: Union County Vocational School; Gloucester County Institute of Technology; Monmouth Career Center; Bergen County Tech; Burlington County Institute of Technology; and Morris County School of Technology. She also stated that she would be visiting the Atlantic County Institute of Technology the following week. She further stated that she and Mary Beth Berry attended a CTE based conference titled Workforce Education: New Jersey as a Laboratory for America at Gloucester County Institute of Technology on May 1, 2018. She stated that she attended the NJPSA Legislative Conference on April 27, 2018 and attended discussions on potential impacts of Marijuana for NJ School and Goals and Priorities for NJ Schools.

Strategic Plan Committee—Ronald Butcher; chair, stated that the committee met on February 15, 2018. He stated that the committee is considering the draft plan that was developed last year in conjunction with the new administration. He also stated that the committee would be considering priorities that the new administration is discussing, engaging stakeholders in the process and addressing any concerns about public education as it begins the process of determining what should be in the strategic plan. He also stated that the Strategic Plan should include our priorities and the methods for getting to the goals we are setting for where we want to be in 5 years. He further stated that the committee needs to be mindful of the resources available and ways to use those resources in an effective and efficient way.

He stated that Dr. Repollet is working with Department staff to build a Stronger Fairer NJ. He also stated that Dr. Repollet has met with Department staff to discuss and receive feedback on who we are as an organization and what we value, focusing on three main principles and is asking for goals and recommendations from staff in the following principal areas:

1. Academic Excellence and Educational Equity
2. Teaching, Leading and learning
3. Educational Support

He further stated that the committee discussed if the Strategic Plan is to be a State Board Plan, a Department Plan or a Joint Plan and that the committee decided that they would like this to be a State Board/Department plan.

He stated that the committee would work through the 2017-2022 draft and the transition document to determine what should be deleted, modified or added. He also stated that the committees would be coordinating with each other and would be reflected in the Strategic Plan. He further stated that Acting Commissioner Repollet will conduct a SWAT Analysis of the draft Strategic Blueprint 2017-2022 including the mission, beliefs, goals and objectives.

He stated that the Department, will look at the top 5 educational systems in the country and compare the draft Strategic Blueprint 2017-2022 with their strategic plans to determine the similarities and differences. He also stated that State Board member Kathy Goldenberg will use NASBE resources to conduct an assessment of other State Boards of Education to determine which states have joint plans with their ed. Departments and which do not. He further stated that social emotional learning resources will be shared with the committee.

Public Testimony

President Aponte stated public testimony would be held today at 2 pm. He also stated that the topic for the May 2 public testimony session will be Religious Holidays Calendar Resolution. He further stated that the May 2 public testimony session would be an Open Topic Public Testimony session meaning registered members of the public may speak on any educational topic of their choice.

He stated that the State Board would be holding a public testimony session on June 6, 2018. He also stated that the State Board would use this public testimony session to receive feedback from members of the public on what they would like to see included in the Paterson School District Local Control Transition Plan. He further stated that registration for the May 2, 2018, public testimony session will open on Thursday, May 17, 2018, and close at noon on Thursday, May 31, 2018.

He stated that anyone interested in speaking at and/or also attending the public testimony session must register so the State Board staff can make proper arrangements for space. He further stated that members of the public should contact the State Board office at 609-984-6024 or check the following website <http://education.state.nj.us/sboe/reg.php> for updates.

Report by Karan Chauhan, Permanent Student Representative

President Aponte welcomed Karan Chauhan the 2017-2018 permanent student representative to the State Board of Education. Karan Chauhan is a senior from Parsippany Troy-Hills High School in Morris County. Karan spoke to the State Board about mental health.

Selection of the State Board Nominating Committee

President Aponte announced the selection of the State Board Nominating Committee that will nominate the 2018-2019 State Board of Education president and vice president. Ernest Lepore will serve as chairperson, and Mary Beth Gazi and Fatimah Burnam-Watkins will serve as members. The nominating committee will give its report at the June State Board monthly meeting and the State Board will vote on officers at the July State Board monthly meeting.

Resolution to Establish the State Board Calendar of Meeting Dates for 2018-2019

President Aponte presented the draft monthly public meeting dates calendar for the 2018-2019 school year. The State Board plans to adopt a resolution at its June 6, 2018 monthly public business meeting regarding the annual calendar of the 2018-2019 meeting dates of the State Board of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:1-2.2, N.J.S.A. 18A:4-7 and 10:4-6 et seq. President Aponte stated that the July meeting would be held on July 11, 2018 beginning at 1:00 pm.

Resolution to Recognize May 2018 as Physical Fitness and Sport Month

President Aponte presented a resolution to recognize May 2018 as Physical Fitness and Sport Month. On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board approved the following resolution read by State Board member Kathy Goldenberg:

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE MAY 2018 AS PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORT MONTH

WHEREAS, childhood obesity has reached epidemic proportions in the United States: and New Jersey has the highest obesity rate in the nation among low-income children; and

WHEREAS, today's childhood obesity rates are putting our children on course to be the first generation in this country to live shorter and less healthy lives than their parents; and

WHEREAS, children spend many of their waking hours at school and therefore need to be active during the school day to meet the recommendations of the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recommends that young people aged 6–17 years participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity daily; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A.18A:35 7-8 requires all students in grades 1-12 to participate in at least 150 minutes per week of health, safety and physical education; and

WHEREAS, research shows that physically active children are more likely to thrive academically and have improved behavior in school; and

WHEREAS, schools can promote physical activity through comprehensive school physical activity programs, including recess, classroom-based physical activity, intramural physical activity clubs, interscholastic sports, and physical education; and

WHEREAS, participation in sports teams and physical activity clubs, can improve grade point average, school attachment, educational aspirations and the likelihood of graduation; and

WHEREAS, higher physical fitness achievement is associated with better school attendance rates and fewer disciplinary incidents involving drugs, alcohol, violence or truancy;

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Board of Education strongly supports efforts to increase physical education, physical activity and participation in youth sports, recognizes the month of May as National Physical Fitness and Sport Month; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State Board of Education designates the week of May 1-7, 2018 as National Physical Education and Sport Week and recognizes National Physical Education Fitness and Sport Month and the central role of physical education and sports in creating a healthy lifestyle for all children in the State of New Jersey.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORTS

Teacher Appreciation

Acting Commissioner Repollet showcased a video produced to honor all teachers working in New Jersey.

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Presentation

Acting Commissioner Repollet provided a presentation on the 2017 results of the National Assessment of Educational Progress for New Jersey. He stated that overall New Jersey’s scores increased in Reading and Mathematics. He also stated that New Jersey is tied for first in the nation at Grade 4 in Reading and Mathematics and ties for second in the nation at Grade 8 in Reading and Mathematics.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

**Items scheduled for a vote are marked with an asterisk.*

A. Commissioner

- Discussed the organizational structure for the State Department of Education at N.J.A.C. 6A:2-1.1 et seq., pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-3(1).

***B. Appointment(s)**

- Approved the following appointment(s) to be effective July 2, 2018, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:4-32-35 and N.J.A.C. 6A:2-1.1 et seq.:

Appointments

- Christine Ann Soto, for the position of Executive Legal Affairs Officer
- Abdulsaleem Hasan, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Division of Field Services
- Perry Medina, Director, Office of Innovation
- Tonya Breland, Director, Office of Professional Development
- Linda Eno, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Academics
- Glenn Forney, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Division of Finance
- Tonya Coston, Director, Division of Early Childhood Education

***C. Certification of School Districts**

- Certified for a period of three years, the following school district(s) recommended by the Commissioner, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-14a and b.

Certified School District	County
Berlin Township	Camden
Clinton	Hunterdon
Freehold Township	Monmouth
Middletown Township	Monmouth
Tinton Falls	Monmouth
Mine Hill	Morris
Netcong	Morris
Green Brook	Somerset
Mansfield	Warren

***D. Standards and Assessment**

- Adopted the readoption with amendment to Chapter 8, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-10 through 14, 18A:7C-1 et seq., 18A:7E-2 through 5, 18A:35-4.2 and 4.7, 18A:59-5 and 18A:4-15.

***E. State Operation of the Paterson Public Schools**

- On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board unanimously adopted the following resolution pertaining to the status of state operation of the Paterson Public Schools.

**RESOLUTION TO RETURN FUNCTIONS OF GOVERNANCE AND INSTRUCTION AND
PROGRAM TO LOCAL CONTROL IN PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, by administrative order issued by the State Board of Education on August 7, 1991, the State Board of Education removed the Paterson School District Board of Education and created a State-operated school district in Paterson pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-34; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-10 et seq., effective on January 24, 2007, the New Jersey Legislature, in review and consultation with the Joint Committee on the Public Schools, directed the Commissioner of the Department of Education to develop and implement a system for monitoring and evaluating the thoroughness and efficiency of public school districts in the State of New Jersey to be called the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC); and

WHEREAS, NJQSAC involves an assessment of each school district's performance in the five key components of school district effectiveness: Instruction and Program, Personnel, Fiscal Management, Operations, and Governance; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education passed resolutions on June 4, 2014 to return the area of Operations, and February 10, 2016 to return the areas of Fiscal Management and Personnel to local control, while the remaining key components of school district performance continued under partial State intervention; and

WHEREAS, Paterson received an equivalency for the NJQSAC requirements for Instruction and Program on February 23, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public Schools has demonstrated substantial and sustained progress in improving its NJQSAC scores in Governance from meeting an initial 11% of the performance indicators in 2007 to having met 44% in 2009, 88% in 2010, 88% in 2011, 86% in 2013, 74% in 2014, 76% of the performance indicators in 2016, and 100% in 2017, as well as substantial evidence that the public school district has adequate programs, policies and personnel in place and in operation to ensure that the demonstrated progress in Governance will be sustained; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public Schools has demonstrated substantial and sustained progress in improving its NJQSAC scores in Instruction and Program from meeting an initial 22% of the performance indicators in 2007 to having met 28% in 2009, 31% in 2010, 33% in 2011, 39% in 2013, 32% in 2014, 32% of the performance indicators in 2016, and 82% in 2017, as well as substantial evidence that the public school district has adequate programs, policies and personnel in place and in operation to ensure that the demonstrated progress in Instruction and Program will be sustained; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:30-7.1 the Commissioner has determined that Paterson has met the factors for initiating return of the function of Governance and the function of Instruction and Program to local control; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the process for transition to local control of the function of Governance and the function of Instruction and Program shall be initiated forthwith in Paterson Public Schools pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:30-7.2; and it is further

RESOLVED, that all NJQSAC assessment areas are now returned to local control or in the process of being returned to local control pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:30-7.2. The Department of Education, in collaboration with Paterson Public Schools, shall develop a full transition plan pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:30-7.2 and 7.3, which will incorporate a transition plan for the return of the function of Governance and the function of Instruction and Program to local control. **The full transition plan will establish the framework for the return to local control of the district.**

***F. State Operation of the Paterson Public Schools**

- On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board unanimously adopted the following resolution pertaining to the status of state operation of the Paterson Public Schools.

**RESOLUTION TO RETURN PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TO FULL LOCAL CONTROL**

WHEREAS, by administrative order issued by the State Board of Education on August 7, 1991, the State Board of Education removed the Paterson School District Board of Education and created a State-operated school district in Paterson pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-34; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-10 et seq., effective on January 24, 2007, the New Jersey Legislature, in review and consultation with the Joint Committee on the Public Schools, directed the Commissioner of the Department of Education to develop and implement a system for monitoring and evaluating the thoroughness and efficiency of public school districts in the State of New Jersey to be called the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC); and

WHEREAS, NJQSAC involves an assessment of each school district's performance in the five key components of school district effectiveness: Instruction and Program, Personnel, Fiscal Management, Operations, and Governance; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education passed resolutions on June 4, 2014, to return the area of Operations, and February 10, 2016, to return the areas of Fiscal Management and Personnel to local control, while the remaining key components of school district performance continued under partial State intervention; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education passed a resolution on May 2, 2018, to initiate the return to local control of the function of Governance and the function of Instruction and Program; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:30-7.1 the Commissioner has determined that Paterson has met the factors for initiating withdrawal from partial intervention and a return to full local control; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that all NJQSAC assessment areas are now returned to local control or in the process of being returned to local control and the process for withdrawal from partial intervention shall be initiated forthwith in Paterson Public Schools pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:30-7.2; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Department of Education, in collaboration with Paterson Public Schools, shall develop a full transition plan pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:30-7.2 and 7.3, and hereby initiating the process of withdrawal of the Paterson Public Schools from partial State intervention. **The full transition plan will establish the framework for the return to local control of the district. The effective date of the return to local control shall be established in the full transition plan.**

WORK SESSION

There was no work session.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly seconded and carried, the State Board of Education adjourned its May 2, 2018, public meeting at 12:52 p.m.

Dr. Lamont O. Repollet, Acting Commissioner
Acting Secretary, N.J. State Board of Education